Geaster

from Pier Antonio Micheli's Nova plantarum genera, published in 1729

Micheli was an astute observer of fungi and this plate shows various features in a genus he called *Geaster*. Today these features still help to identify different species, though now under other names. For example, Earthstar mouths may be simple (Figure 4) or complex (Figure 2 - and the same figure shows that in some species the spore sac is raised on a short stem). The star-like arms may be tessellated as in Figure 6.

